# WEEKLY COURIER.

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JASPER. . . . INDIANA.


## GOOD GOOSE STORIES.

**How the Wild Bird Adapts Himself to Civilized Surroundings.**

Few wild geese are seen in Colorado of late years, though there are thousands of them found usually on the large reservations in the west and northwest. As a rule an Indian will not eat goose or duck meat as long as he can get a "cotton-tail" or a prairie-dog; it is not the kind of meat they like. On Green river in eastern Utah thousands of geese congregate in the fall and remain during the winter. The Indians hardly ever shoot at them, and they flock together, sometimes as many as ten thousand, on a sandbar, and keep up a hideous noise day and night all winter long.

Wild geese, under certain conditions when caught, become quite domestic. In Meeker there are three owned at the Meeker hotel which have been there nearly five years. They were caught when young, and for awhile after being grown their wings were kept clipped. Afterward no attention was paid them, and they were left to take care of themselves, but they have never attempted to leave, though they ramble about the town unrestrained.

The supposition usually prevails that wild geese build their nests in the long grass and bushes fringing the isolated streams and lakes, where they usually congregate to rear their young. Such, however, is not the case, for their nests are often found in the top of trees. Quite a resort for wild geese is found at the head waters of the Yampa river, and a year ago two boys, living near Steamboat springs, found a nest in the top of a cottonwood tree. The goose was sitting on the nest, and the two boys shot her off and then one climbed up to inspect the nest. It contained quite a number of eggs, and the next thing discussed was how to get them to the ground. First they tried dropping them, the boy on the ground holding his hat, but after breaking two that plan was abandoned, and then the boy up the tree thought of a novel plan that worked to perfection. He took off his boots and socks, and, placing the latter inside the boots to form a soft lining, carefully placed the eggs within, then fastened the boots to the waistband of his trousers by loosening his suspenders upon either side and passing the ends through the finger-straps of the boots and again buttoning them to the waistband. Thus arranged, he successfully descended the tree.

The eggs, it seems, are next to indestructible, and will stand plenty of rough usage. In the present case the boys were on horseback, and rode around all afternoon with the eggs strapped in a coat or saddle. They were placed that night in a pan until the morning following, and then it occurred to one of the boys to place them under a hen, which was done. Seven of the eggs hatched, and the goslings grew to be full-grown geese. They would go to the river every day and return to the accustomed roost every night, regularly, and wait around for their breakfast before going to the river again in the morning.

One day a sportsman from Denver came to the place for a few days' recreation. He saw the geese in the river and began shooting at them. He showed his greenness from the fact that he would shoot one and wade into the river and get it, and then go out and from the bank shoot another one, and the geese all the while never thought of flying, but kept swimming about him frantically screaming.

Another odd case was learned of at Steamboat springs a few days ago. Miss Lulu Crawford has three wild goslings which were caught by her soon after being hatched. They were placed in a box in which a very small bantam hen had taken a notion to sit. She at once adopted the goslings and seemed to be as proud of them as if they were her own chicks. When seen by the writer the goslings were two-thirds grown and four times as large as the hen, though she insisted on being a mother to them still, and followed them about all day. At night she would get them into a convenient spot and try to cover them.—Denver Times.

**Some Other Man.**

A man who took a Third Avenue Elevated train in Harlem the other afternoon fell asleep almost at once, and when the train finally reached the city hall the conductor shook him and called out:

"Here we are now—everybody out!"

This did not entirely arouse the sleeper, and after a more vigorous shaking the official shouted in his ear:

"Wake up, you, twenty minutes for dinner!"

The man awoke, sprang up and rushed out on the platform. After looking around for a moment in a bewildered way he turned and queried:

"Did you say twenty minutes for dinner?"

"Yes."

"Well, that don't mean me. I never have enough dinner to keep me busy over three minutes!"—M. Quad, in N. Y. World.

**He Knew His Sister.**

Little Dick—Is this the house you and sis is to live in when you is married?

Mr. Nicefello—Yes, my boy. What do you think of it?

"'Taint half big enough."

"Your sister, myself, and a servant will constitute the family, as a rule. I am sure there is plenty of room for us, and spare rooms for relatives."

"Yes, plenty for the family, but the family don't count. What you want is strangers, all the time, too."

"Ha, ha! Why should I wish to entertain strangers, my boy? I am not going to keep a hotel."

"'Cause sis will always be real kind and polite to you when strangers is about."—Good News.


LIKE the patient moss to the rifted hill
The wee brown house is clinging;
A last year's nest that is lone and still,
Though erst it was filled with singing.
Then fleet were the children's pattering feet,
And their thrilling, childish laughter;
And merry voices were sweet, O sweet!
Ringing from floor to rafter.

The beautiful darlings, one by one,
From the nest's safe shelter flying,
Went forth in the sheen of the morning sun
Their fluttering pinions trying;
But oft as the reaping time is o'er,
And the hoar frost crisps the stubble,
They haste to the little home once more
From the great world's toil and trouble.

And the mother herself is at the pane,
With a hand the dim eyes shading,
And the flush of girlhood tints again
The cheek that is thin and fading.
For her boys and girls are coming home,
The mother's kiss their guerdon,
As they came ere yet they learned to roam,
Or how to the task and burden.

Over the door's worn sill they troop,
The skies of youth above them,
The blessings of God on the happy group,
Who have mother left to love them.
They well may smile in the face of care,
To whom such grace is given—
A mother's faith and a mother's prayer
Holding them close to Heaven.

For as she clasps her bearded son,
With a heart that's brimming over,

She's tenderly blending two in one—
Her boy and her boyish lover!
And half of her soul is reft away,
So twine the dead and the living,
In the little home wherein to-day
Her children keep Thanksgiving.

There are tiny hands that pull her gown,
And small heads bright and golden;
The childish laugh, and the childish frown,
And the dimpled fingers holden.
That bring again to the mother breast
The spell of the sunny weather,
When she hushed her brood in the crowded nest,
And all were glad together.

A truce to the jarring notes of life,
The cries of pain and passion;
Over this lull in the eager strife,
Love hovers, Eden-fashion.
In the wee brown house were lessons taught
Of strong and sturdy living,
And ever where honest hands have wrought
God hears the true thanksgiving.
—Margaret E. Sangster, in the Home Maker.

## Toot Makes a Match.

### A THANKSGIVING DAY ROMANCE.

AUNT GRACE never saw us children, nor a lot of others in the family, until Thanksgiving time, this year, because when she married Uncle Henry she went away with him to live in England. He died about a year ago and left her all his money, and last summer she came to New York to live. Mamma and papa went to see her, but they wouldn't take me, and I think it was very unkind of them, for I'm her namesake. Toot says I'm her middle namesake. My first name, you know, is Minnie. Oh! don't I wish Aunt Grace would adopt me and take me to the city to live with her. I just hate the country, and country people are horrid. They haven't any style at all. Jimmy Lane calls them "hayseeds." Jimmy and his sister Lillie go to the city to live

"I SUPPOSE YOU ARE A GREAT HELP TO YOUR MAMMA?"

every winter, and they think they know everything.

Mamma said she was going to invite Aunt Grace to spend Thanksgiving with us. She said she would have a real old-fashioned Thanksgiving dinner, such as they used to have when they were little girls and lived in Vermont. I told mamma I shouldn't think she would have anything old-fashioned for Aunt Grace when she was so rich and arteocratic. But mamma was determined to have her own way and wouldn't listen to me.

I was disappointed when I saw Aunt Grace. She is short and fat and I don't think her face is pretty, though some people do. She looks very different from what I thought she would. I supposed she would be tall and elegant like a duchess.

But the very day after she came she washed the breakfast dishes and darned papa's socks and made Toot an apron. So common! I should have been mortified to death to have had Lillie Lane see her do such things, after all my fine talk about her.

She said to me: "I suppose you are a great help to your mamma?" I said: "Yes, Aunt Grace, I always do everything I can to help mamma." I didn't know Toot heard me, or I wouldn't have said that; but she did, and said: "Why, Minnie, you wicked story teller; ain't you 'shamed to talk like that? You know you won't do anything you don't have to. Will she, Uncle Jack?"

But Uncle Jack said: "See here, Toot, I've found some peanuts in my pocket." And she went to get them. Aunt Grace looked at me real sharp and I felt uncomfortable. Toot always spoils everything. I do wish she wasn't my sister. I told mamma that night I was sure she'd spoil the Thanksgiving party. Grandma said: "If you would stop trying to appear what you are not, Minnie, you wouldn't be afraid of anything Toot could say."

I was provoked at grandma for saying that, but I didn't answer her. It's too near Christmas, and then papa was in the room. One day when papa and mamma were talking together, and didn't know I heard them, I found out something I didn't know before. When Aunt Grace and Uncle Jack were young folks they were engaged to be married, but they had a quarrel, and Aunt Grace went to England, and they never saw each other again until she came to visit us. I told Lillie Lane about it, and she said: "How very romantic!" I didn't know exactly what romantic meant but I didn't say so, for if I don't understand everything she tells me, she calls me a "country pumpkin."

I don't like Lillie very well, but she is the richest girl in school, and her folks live in the city winters, and keep a carriage; so I have her for my most intimate friend.

Lillie said: "Why don't you try and make a match between your aunt and uncle? If you should they would probably ask you to come to the city and live with them, and give you lovely presents. That's the way they do in novels."

I never read a novel—we don't have them—but Lillie has lots of them. Her mamma buys them and Lillie steals them and takes them to her room and reads them on the sly. She tells me about the lovely things she reads in them, and I'm crazy to get one and read it for myself.

We talked a long time about the match, but couldn't think of any way to manage it. But Lillie said if I kept my eyes open something might happen just right. I told Lillie to be careful what she said when Toot was around, or there would be trouble.

Aunt Grace intended to go home right after Thanksgiving, and Lillie said I had better do everything I could to please her and Uncle Jack, so I wiped the dishes every day, and didn't make any fuss about taking care of Freddie while they went visiting, and stopped leaving my things around for mamma to pick up, but oh! that Toot. I was so provoked at her. One night at the tea-table she asked, all of a sudden: "Mamma, do you think Minnie is going to die?"

"What do you mean, Toot?" said mamma, looking frightened.

"Why, mamma, didn't Mrs. Brown say Mr. Brown 'met with a change' before he died? and Minnie's stopped being so lazy and disagreeable since Aunt Grace came, and been so extremely good that I thought perhaps she was going to die, too. Anyway, she's 'met with a change,' but there's room for her to 'prove more yet, for she slapped me yesterday when you were all away, and then she gave me some candy not to tell, that's why I didn't." Papa said: "Don't you want some more peaches, Toot?" and the peaches stopped her mouth, but didn't I want to slap her again? And I do think Aunt Grace has the most unpleasant way of looking at me sometimes. Some days I almost wished she had stayed in New York, because, besides her unpleasant looks, that Thanksgiving dinner made so much work.

It was "Minnie, do this," and "Minnie, do that," till I was nearly worn out. There's one thing certain, if Aunt Grace hadn't been there I wouldn't have stood mamma's making such a slave of me. I had to stem raisins and beat eggs and sift flour and wash currants and cut citron, and one day Aunt Grace got a lot of greasy dishes together and made me wash them! Ugh!

All of our relations came to dinner on Thanksgiving day, and some of them came the day before and stayed all night. Mamma said Cousin Kitty would have to sleep with Toot and me.

After we went to bed Toot was so still I thought she was asleep, so I told Kitty all about the match I was trying to make. She thought it was a splendid idea, and said she would help me. Our table looked lovely Thanksgiving day. Mamma bought a new tablecloth and napkins and some new dishes.

Aunt Mary brought a lot of flowers, and we picked all we had on our house-plants and put them in our glass pitchers on the table, and we had all of grandma's silver.

Mamma told Toot she mustn't talk, and she said she wouldn't and she didn't until we were half through dinner, then she looked at Aunt Grace and said: "Aunt Grace, I wish you would stay a hundred years!"

"Do you, dear?" Aunt Grace said.

"Yes, 'cause we can 'ford so many things when you're here. I don't s'pose we could have 'forded this tablecloth and napkins and these dishes if you hadn't been here. Nor this turkey. And prob'ly grandma wouldn't have let us take her silver if we hadn't had company."

Papa said: "Toot, here's another slice of turkey for you!" and everybody began talking about something.

She didn't say any more till they were passing the pudding around. Then she said: "Mamma, will we have plum-pudding at the wedding?" The minute she said that, I knew what was coming, and thought I should die.

"What wedding?" asked mamma.

"Why, when Aunt Grace and Uncle Jack get married. I s'pose that will be the next thing we will have to see to. I didn't know they 'tended to be married 'til I heard Minnie tell Kittie last night. Aunt Grace, what makes you and Uncle Jack look so funny? Oh dear! I hope you ain't got mad at each other again and changed your mind 'bout having the wedding. I shall be so 'spointed if we don't have it. Kitty says people jump over the broom stick when they get married, and I want to see Aunt Grace jump. I never saw a fat woman jump, but I know I should just 'joy it. Won't she look awful queer, Uncle Jack?"

Mamma told Toot to stop two or three times but she didn't pay any attention to her but went right on. Papa laughed so he couldn't say anything. Everyone laughed but Aunt Grace and Uncle Jack, and mamma and me. I never saw mamma so angry before. She got up from the table and took Toot in her arms to carry her out of the room. Toot screamed and kicked and one of her feet hit Uncle Thomas on the head and knocked his glasses off. They struck a goblet as they fell and broke. He tried to catch them and tipped over a dish of gravy on the tablecloth, and a lot of it ran down in Aunt Martha's lap on her new silk dress.

Mamma took Toot upstairs and shut

MAMMA TOOK TOOT UPSTAIRS.

her in a closet, and I guess she whipped her.

All the folks but Aunt Grace and Uncle Jack tried to help Aunt Martha get the gravy off her dress. They both started to go out of the room. Uncle Jack went into the hall. Aunt Grace intended to go to the sitting-room, but she made a mistake and went into the china closet. The doors are close together. She shut the door and couldn't open it and had to go out the other door that opens under the stairs in the hall. Uncle Jack was in the hall and they went into the parlor together, and shut the door right in my face as I was going in too.

I went back to the dining-room and told how rude they were, and they all looked at each other and seemed pleased, all but Uncle Thomas and Aunt Martha.

No one ate any more dinner and everybody wanted Toot to come downstairs. So papa went up and got her. I never saw such a looking child. Her face was red and tear-stained. And when mamma picked her up so quickly she dropped a spoonful of cranberry jelly that she was eating on her pink cashmere dress and made a big spot on the front of it, and she had kicked the closet door till the toes of her new shoes were all white. But I declare, if I wasn't surprised when everyone hugged and kissed her and called her a little darling.

After a long while Aunt Grace and Uncle Jack came out of the parlor. He held out his hands to Toot and she flew at him and got her arms around his neck and hugged and kissed him until he could hardly breathe. Then she peeped into his face and said:

"Uncle Jack, how funny you look—just like a sheep."

"Never mind my looks, Toot," he said, "we're going to have that wedding right off and you've made the match."

"Why Uncle Jack," Toot said, "how 'dic'lous you talk. People don't make matches, they buy 'em at the store."—Bessie G. Hart, in Detroit Free Press.

## A GHASTLY PUN.

"Watch me gobble," remarked the fat Thanksgiving turkey cock, as he strutted by the small boy.

"That's all right," replied the small boy; "but wait till next Thursday, and feel me gobble."—Puck.

—On this Thanksgiving day we may take up the utterance of the Psalmist: "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord." The blessings we have received and our unworthiness of the least of all of them ought to cause every tongue to break forth in grateful adoration. God declares: "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me."—Christian Inquirer.

—In the discussion of the Thanksgiving question the turkey would like to remain on the fence.

## WHAT IT COSTS.

**What the Tariff on Tin Plate Costs the Consumer.**

The failure of the crops abroad and the heavy demand for our breadstuffs resulting from it have greatly increased our exports of these products. Coming as this does directly after the imposition of higher duties by the McKinley tariff the supporters of this measure have renewed their old assertions that high tariffs do not restrict foreign trade. They have even gone so far as to put forth the claim that the McKinley tariff has caused the increase in our export trade. The absurdity of such a claim is too apparent to need a moment's attention.

The effects of European tariffs upon commerce furnishes undoubted proof of how high duties restrict imports and exports. Those nations which impose the least restrictions have the greatest commerce. To show this we have divided the leading European countries into the following classes according to the average rate of duty which they impose upon imports. The first class includes those countries which impose less than five per cent. upon the whole amount dutiable. The states belonging to this class are Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the limited Kingdom. Their conbined rate is 4.23 per cent.

The second class consists of countries levying duties of between five and ten per cent. and includes Austria, Hungary, France and Germany. The combined rate of these states averages 7.85 per cent. of their combined imports. The third class comprises the countries which levy more than ten per cent. duty on imports. These states are Norway, Sweden, Portugal, Italy and Russia. Their combined rate averages 26.10 per cent. on their wheat imports.

The combined imports of all the states embraced in these three classes amount to $5,588,200,000 and their combined population to 397,900,000 souls.

The following table shows, in condensed form, the percentage of total population and imports belonging to each class. It also shows for each class the imports per capita and the average rate of duty levied on imports:

| | Per cent of population | Per cent of imports | Imports per capita | Average rate of duty |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| First class | 16.5 | 35.1 | $ 6 63 | 4.23 |
| Second class | 41.2 | 34.7 | 15 34 | 7.85 |
| Third class | 42.3 | 30.0 | 4 29 | 26.10 |

Could any evidence more conclusively demonstrate the disastrous effects of high tariffs upon international trade. What but their free system of commerce can account for the fact that England, Belgium, Switzerland and the Netherlands, with only 16½ per cent. of the population, control over one-half of the total import trade of Europe? Do not these figures completely overthrow the assertion that high tariffs do not injuriously affect trade. What an answer is this to that policy which aims to restrict and pervert the development of our unparalled natural resources.

## EUROPEAN TARIFFS.

**What is a Fair and Moderate Protective Tariff—Tariffs of Nations Compared.**

One of the stock arguments of the advocates of a high tariff is the assertion that the leading nations of Europe have discarded the policy of freedom of trade and adopted that of high protection. In proving their assertions they refer to France and Germany, which nations they claim have tried free trade, and have found it detrimental to their interests; in short, that this change on the part of France and Germany affords the highest possible indorsement of our present high tariff policy.

This assertion has so seldom been challenged that many who have no means of testing its validity have come to regard it as true. It is about time, therefore, that the truth should be known. The following table shows for each country the population, the gross imports, both free and dutiable, the receipts of the customs revenues and the ratio of receipts to imports:

| Countries | Year. | Population in millions | Imports in millions | Revenues in millions | Rate of duty—per cent. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Belgium | 1890 | 6 | $ 317.5 | $ 5.5 | 1.82 |
| Switzerland | 1890 | 3 | 105 | 5.1 | 4.89 |
| Netherlands | 1889 | 4.5 | 300 | 20 | 3.91 |
| United Kingdom | 1889 | 37.5 | 2,100 | 100 | 4.76 |
| Germany | 1890 | 49 | 980 | 68 | 6.74 |
| Austria Hungary | 1888 | 40 | 367.5 | 29 | 7.69 |
| France | 1889 | 39 | 541 | 73 | 8.13 |
| Sweden | 1890 | 4.9 | 81 | 10 | 12.57 |
| Norway | 1889 | 2 | 42.7 | 5.5 | 12.89 |
| Italy | 1889 | 30 | 205 | 53 | 22.85 |
| United States | 1890 | 62 | 773.6 | 224.5 | 29.12 |
| Russia | 1889 | 98 | 139 | 50 | 35.49 |
| Portugal | 1890 | 5.2 | 41.5 | 19.5 | 47.40 |

A study of the above table at once raises the question: What constitutes a protective tariff? To this, happily, those who passed the McKinley tariff give an answer. They assert that the rate fixed by the McKinley tariff is a fair and moderate expression of the protectionist policy, and anything below it falls so far short of being rated protection. Previous to the passage of the McKinley tariff the general rate of duty was about 30 per cent., as shown in the above table. This rate was not considered a fair protective rate and was accordingly raised by the McKinley tariff to between 35 and 40 per cent. Judged by this standard the only countries enumerated above which can be considered as having protective tariffs are Russia, Portugal and the United States, and possibly Italy. Sweden and Norway would be considered partially protective, but where would Germany, Austria-Hungary and France be classed, the highest of whose rates is less than a third of that imposed by our tariff before it was made moderately protective by the McKinley bill, and not a fourth of that which we now have?

If a tariff of over 35 per cent. on free and dutiable goods is but fair and moderate protection then the tariffs of 6.74 in Germany and 9.13 in France are free trade tariffs. But we are told that Germany and France have protective tariffs. If this is the case how can it be said that the McKinley tariff affords but fair and moderate protection?

Does this show that the progressive nations of Europe have adopted our policy? On the contrary, it is to such countries as Russia, Portugal and Italy, despotic monarchies, with down-trodden and oppressed people anxious but unable through poverty to leave their native land; it is to such countries as these that the advocates of high tariffism point as the progressive European nations which have adopted our policy.

## M'KINLEY PRICES.

**How the McKinley Tariff Raised the Prices of the Necessaries of Life.**

In a speech which he delivered at Lawrence, Mass., Gov. Russell made a list setting forth the prices of 123 articles of common use in September, 1891 and September 1890. All of these articles are sold in stores, and on all the duties were raised by the McKinley tariff, and prices were advanced accordingly. The list was prepared with great care by one of the largest houses in Boston. On the whole list the average increase in prices has been about 20 per cent. The following is a part of the list on glassware and crockery:

| | Duty advanced—per cent. | Retail price advanced—per cent. |
|---|---|---|
| *Glassware—* | | |
| Common tumblers | 15 | 12 |
| Common goblets | 15 | 6 |
| Jelly tumblers, ½ pint | 15 | 19 |
| Jelly tumblers, ½ pint | 15 | 15 |
| White hanging lamp shades | 12 | 15 |
| Pickle dishes | 12 | 10 |
| Bowls | 12 | 16 |
| Water sets | 12 | 6 |
| Two-quart pitchers | 12 | 14 |
| Four-inch footed preserve dishes | 12 | 7 |
| Four-inch unfooted preserve dishes | 15 | 20 |
| *Crockery—* | | |
| Cups and saucers | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Plates | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Platters | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Vegetable dishes | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Pitchers | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Bowls | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Mugs | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Pickle dishes | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Gravy dishes | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Soup tureens | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Salad bowls | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Pudding dishes | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Sugar bowls | 10 | 5 to 12 |
| Coffee cups and saucers | 10 | 5 to 12 |

It will be remembered that the McKinley tariff increased the duties on glassware from 40 and 45 per cent. to an uniform rate of 60 per cent., and at the same time imposed this latter duty on the cost of packages and charges, adding about 10 per cent. more to the 60 per cent.

Immediately after the passage of the McKinley tariff the manufacturers of glassware met and formed a trust to take advantage of the increased duties and raise prices.

While the glassware trust was getting in its work the crockery trust cut down wages and increased prices. Does not this show for whom the McKinley tariff law was enacted; and does it not also show how those trusts which demanded its enactment have taken full advantage of it?

## CRIME AND THE TARIFF.

**A Knotty Question Suggested For Consideration By the Prison Congress.**

Why does not the prison congress in session at Pittsburgh attack the real cause of the increase of the crime which it bewails—a protective tariff? It is like an Indian aiming at the smoke to stop a railway train for these so-called philanthropists to weary us with platitudes about "tendencies," "training," "home influences," "social customs" and so on. No teaching, preaching, charity or much else can avail with a protective tariff which drags the people down to crime. Gravitation is too much for the efforts of philanthropy or prison science. Reflection will show anyone that a heresy which takes from the many to enrich the few must increase crime. Whether they know it or not criminals are striking back at the false pressure of society. The rich have been given the money to tempt, and the sale of virtue is made easy because of the poverty that must follow the interference with natural industries. But to those disinclined to search for cause and effect, there is a fact which settles the matter beyond cavil. England, at the close of its protective period, had nearly 50,000 convicts. After forty years of free trade, in which the population has almost doubled, it has 3,000 or 9,000. In London, alone, eight prisons have been closed since 1864. When the remainder of class laws have been abolished England will have no criminals. The reverse of this is true in the United States because thirty years ago we left a practically free trade policy for one of protection. When the government stops interfering, nature will commence equalizing, and people will find it unprofitable to do other than honestly acquire a living. Until the inauguration of this change the deliberations of prison reformers are not worth a fig.—Charles E. Hucketts, in St. Louis Republic.

**Who Pays the Tax?**

Marshall Field & Co. yesterday imported $1,400 worth of pearl buttons and paid $3,000 duty on the lot. These buttons are to be sold to the people of Chicago. Who will ultimately pay that $3,000 as a tribute to a mistaken economical policy?—Chicago Mail.

—Canada's surplus wheat crop will amount to at least 50,000,000 bushels, more than twice as much as last year. Should the price be a shade lower for it than for our own crop, American millers can afford to import it in spite of the McKinley "protection" of twenty-five cents per bushel, for, having made it into flour, they will be entitled to a drawback of 99 per cent. of the duty on exporting it. The McKinley "protection" to American wheat growers, therefore, in such cases amounts to only 2½ mills per bushel—a mere bagatelle.—Rural New Yorker.

—Thirty-one years ago the farmer exchanged his wool for cloth and at a home factory. To-day he exchanges more wool for the same quantity of cloth—but how about the cloth?